

Legislation Committee

From:
Sent: Thursday, 19 April 2018 3:30 PM
To: Legislation Committee
Subject: WA ANIMAL WELFARE AMENDMENT BILL 2017

WA ANIMAL WELFARE AMENDMENT BILL 2017

Mr Mark Warner
 Committee Clerk
 Standing Committee on Legislation
 Parliament House, 4 Harvest Terrace
 West Perth WA 6005

Dear Sir

As an individual I write to the committee with recommendations/ amendments/ to the current Act..

The current Animal Welfare Act is very limited in its capacity to regulate matters relating to the health, safety and welfare of animals.

1. Tethering of canines should be abolished and appropriate housing conditions should apply.
 It has never been acceptable to tether animals, canines in particular whereby harm or death as the result of tethering.
 Tethering in certain circumstances can prevent canines from sheltering or gaining access to food or water causing harm or in certain instances death.

 2. Penalties for canines left in vehicles in extreme hot conditions.
 Citizens should be permitted in certain circumstances to gain entry to a vehicle when a canine is in obvious distress or at risk of death. It takes less than 5 minutes for death to occur when a canine is trapped or left in a vehicle.

 3. Tenants not to be discriminated against where pets are concerned.
 This reduces the amount of surrendered and dumped animals.
 It is fracturing families lives when a loved pet has to be surrendered due to tenancy agreements.
 It also impacts on small Rescues who deal with the fallout of surrendered pets.

 4. Pig hunting in WA to be included in animal welfare.
 Individuals by law are required to have firearms licensed.
 Should canines be used as a weapon then certain standards for housing and keeping of such canines needs to be regulated. A Code of Practice needs to be implemented ensuring all canines are cared for.

 5. Caging of canines in WA pounds and shelters needs to be addressed/ upgraded and met by certain standards.
 A Code of Practice allowing Rangers to be disciplined should they not comply with standard condition's.
 Currently there is no Code of Practice whereby Rangers can be disciplined because the law does not permit it.
 Some of the current facilities are below standard.
- Caging of canines in high density living should have restrictions on size of breeds. Allowing some of the larger breeds to be caged in a restricted area is of no benefit to the canine physically or mentally.

Standards should include breeders and back yard breeding.

6. Living conditions for working breeds to be included in Animal Welfare.
Tethering, breeding and maintaining acceptable standards for all working canines.
Abuse does occur and the working breeds should not be exempt from animal welfare.

7. Back yard breeding to be abolished along with puppy mills.

8. All canines to be appropriately housed in extreme weather conditions cold or hot.
Leaving canines out in extreme cold or hot conditions should be addressed.

With high density living becoming more of an issue animals left outside in extreme weather conditions this impacts on surrounding residents due to the canines discomfort. Causing Anti social behaviour amongst residents. Not forgetting the distress caused to animals forced to live in inappropriate conditions.

10. The sale of pets in Pet Shops is an area the community feel passionate about.
WA needs to set a standard whereby the rest of country looks to us for Animal Welfare.
I think it would only be fair to say that too much money is made from the backs of animals. Over breeding and abuse is a fact.
Therefore the Government should look at all Pets Shops providing an outlet for ex pound dogs/cats to be rehomed through.

Yours sincerely

Treacy Lockie

Public / Internet

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